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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines

Report of the Secretary-General

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* On behalf of the States members of the European Union that are States Members of the United Nations.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 15 December 1994, the General Assembly adopted resolution 49/75 D, entitled "Moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines", the operative paragraphs of which read as follows:

> "The General Assembly,
>
> "...
>
> "1. Welcomes the moratorium already declared by certain States on the export of anti-personnel land-mines;
>
> "2. Urges States that have not yet done so to declare such moratorium at the earliest possible date;
>
> "3. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report on steps taken by Member States to implement such moratoriums and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament";
>
> "4. Emphasizes the importance of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and its Protocols as the authoritative international instrument governing the responsible use of anti-personnel land-mines and related devices;
>
> "5. Urges States that have not done so to adhere to the Convention and its Protocols;
>
> "6. Encourages further international efforts to seek solutions to the problems caused by anti-personnel land-mines, with a view to the eventual elimination of anti-personnel land-mines."

2. In pursuance of the request contained in paragraph 3 of resolution 49/75 D, the Secretary-General requested, in a note verbale dated 17 March 1995, that Member States provide the relevant information on the matter by 31 May 1995. Information has been received thus far from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, the European Union (on behalf of the States members of the Union that are States Members of the United Nations), Japan, Jordan, Malta, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Any additional information received from Member States will be issued as addenda to the present report.

3. In connection with the above-mentioned matter, the Secretary-General sent the following letter on 23 June 1995 to the Foreign Ministers of States not party to the 1980 Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons:

> "Since I launched a United Nations coordinated programme of action in 1993 to clear mines worldwide, hundreds of thousands of land-mines have

been cleared in many countries by the authorities of those countries, by the United Nations and its specialized agencies, and by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, assisted by financial contributions from many States. Unfortunately, between 4 and 10 million additional land-mines are estimated to have been laid in many regions during the same period and there has been a net increase in the number of land-mines to be cleared.

"This trend is unacceptable and must be reversed.

"In order to prevent further proliferation of land-mines, the General Assembly has called upon Member States to establish a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines. Several Member States have heeded the call of the General Assembly and I express my gratitude to all those States which have established a moratorium or are in the process of doing so.

"But the cruel reality remains that millions of land-mines are already widely available and are used in all conflicts, particularly in internal ones. They are often undetectable and dangerous to remove. Their use against civilians disrupts the economic and social development of entire regions by isolating whole communities, depopulating large areas and preventing the return of refugees.

"The magnitude of the problem requires a coordinated and determined effort by the international community. The 49 States parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons have called for the first CCW Review Conference, which will be held at Vienna from 25 September to 13 October 1995, to review the scope and operation of the Convention and, inter alia, to strengthen its Land-mine Protocol. The preparatory Group of Governmental Experts, which has formulated a draft for a revised Land-mine Protocol, has made several proposals, which, if adopted by the Review Conference, would significantly increase the protection of civilians against the indiscriminate use of land-mines.

"That laudable effort would still be insufficient if the Convention did not achieve universality and effective implementation. I would therefore be grateful, as depositary of the Convention, if your Government could participate in the Review Conference as an observer and, most importantly, if it would consider initiating or completing the procedures required for the ratification of or accession to the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto."

II. APPROPRIATE MEASURES TAKEN TO LIMIT THE EXPORT OF ANTI-PERSONNEL LAND-MINES

4. Each year more than 20,000 human beings are injured or killed by land-mines. Most of them are non-combatants: they are farmers, women and children.

5. The international community clears approximately 100,000 land-mines each year. During the same period between 2 and 5 million new land-mines are laid. Land-mine proliferation thus adds each year two or more decades to the 1,100

years that would already be necessary to clear all land-mines at the current rate of mine clearance. Land-mines are in reality a weapon of mass destruction, in slow motion, because they indiscriminately kill or maim massive numbers of human beings over a long period of time.

6. The magnitude of the problem requires a courageous, consistent and continued effort by the international community. The understanding that common action is needed has motivated several initiatives at the unilateral, regional and global levels.

A. Unilateral initiatives

7. In October 1992, the United States of America adopted an export moratorium on anti-personnel land-mines. In 1993, that moratorium was extended for three years. The United States Congress is currently considering legislation, the Land-mine Use Moratorium Act, that would have the effect of severely limiting the use of anti-personnel land-mines. In February 1993, France declared an export moratorium on anti-personnel land-mines and in the same year Belgium declared an indefinite moratorium on the production, transfer and use of anti-personnel land-mines. During the current year, France has widened the scope of its moratorium to include the production of all types of anti-personnel land-mines.

8. After the adoption by the General Assembly of resolutions 48/75 K of 16 December 1993 and 49/75 D of 15 December 1994, in which the Assembly called upon States to declare a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines, a number of States heeded that call and informed the Secretary-General of their decisions. Other States provided such information in the CCW Group of Governmental Experts, during the Review Conference or in the context of the International Meeting on Mine Clearance. The following list of action taken is based on that information:

(a) Argentina has declared a five-year moratorium, beginning on 27 March 1995, on the export of anti-personnel land-mines;

(b) Australia has declared that it does not produce anti-personnel land-mines;

(c) Austria has declared that it observes a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines and that military stocks of anti-personnel land-mines have been destroyed;

(d) Belgium has declared an indefinite moratorium on production, transfer and use of anti-personnel land-mines;

(e) Brazil has declared that, since 1989, there have been no exports of Brazilian land-mines to any country;

(f) Cambodia has declared that it would legislate a ban on land-mines and would request that producing countries cease exporting them to Cambodia;

(g) Canada has declared that it has not exported anti-personnel land-mines since 1987 nor does it intend to do so in the future;

(h) Chile has declared that it does not produce or export anti-personnel land-mines;

(i) Colombia has declared that it does not produce or use land-mines;

(j) The Czech Republic has declared a three-year moratorium, beginning on 5 October 1994, on the export of anti-personnel land-mines;

(k) Ecuador has declared that it does not authorize the export of anti-personnel land-mines;

(l) Finland has declared that it does not export anti-personnel land-mines;

(m) France has declared an indefinite moratorium on the production and export of all types of anti-personnel land-mines;

(n) Germany has declared a three-year moratorium, beginning 8 June 1994, on the export of anti-personnel land-mines;

(o) Greece has declared an indefinite moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines;

(p) Hungary does not manufacture or export anti-personnel land-mines;

(q) Israel has declared a two-year moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines;

(r) Italy has declared a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines, which will remain in effect until a new international agreement governing the production, export and stockpiling of anti-personnel land-mines enters into force;

(s) Japan has provided information on the national legislation relating to the export of anti-personnel land-mines and has declared that it does not engage in any export of land-mines;

(t) Jordan has declared that it does not manufacture or export anti-personnel land-mines;

(u) Latvia has declared a moratorium on the export of all types of mines;

(v) Malta has declared that it does not produce or export anti-personnel land-mines;

(w) Mexico has declared that it does not produce or use land-mines;

(x) The Netherlands has declared an indefinite moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines to those States which are not party to the CCW and its Land-mine Protocol;

(y) Poland has established a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines that are undetectable by electromagnetic devices or are non-self-destructing and non-self-neutralizing. That moratorium will be in effect till 1998;

(z) Romania has declare a one-year moratorium, beginning on 1 July 1995, on the export of all land-mines;

(aa) The Russian Federation has declared a three-year moratorium, beginning January 1993, on the export of non-self-destructing and non-detectable anti-personnel land-mines;

(bb) Slovenia has declared that it does not export anti-personnel land-mines;

(cc) South Africa has declared an indefinite moratorium on the export of all land-mines;

(dd) Spain has declared a one-year moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines, which was extended on 24 February 1995 for another year;

(ee) Sweden has declared a three-year moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines;

(ff) Switzerland has declared an indefinite moratorium on the export of land-mines to those States which are not party to the CCW and its Land-mine Protocol;

(gg) Thailand has declared that it does not manufacture or export land-mines;

(hh) Turkey has declared that it does not export anti-personnel land-mines;

(ii) Ukraine has declared that it does not export anti-personnel land-mines, pending the adoption of a formal moratorium;

(jj) The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has declared an indefinite moratorium on the export of non-self-destructing or non-detectable anti-personnel land-mines, as well as on the export of all anti-personnel land-mines to countries that have not ratified the CCW;

(kk) The United States has declared a one-year moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines, which was extended on 20 November 1993 for a period of three years.

(See also the communications of States reproduced in the report of the Secretary-General (A/49/275 and Add.1) and in section III below.)

9. In order to establish a coordinated multilateral approach, proposals have been made by the United Kingdom in the Conference on Disarmament, and by Australia, Sweden and the Netherlands in the CCW Group of Governmental Experts. In the Conference on Disarmament, the United Kingdom proposed that States should

consider applying a code of conduct to the transfer of anti-personnel land-mines. In the CCW Group of Experts, Australia, Sweden and the Netherlands proposed that a new article be introduced in the revised Protocol II of the Convention that would have the effect of prohibiting the transfer of anti-personnel land-mines to States not party to the CCW, as well as prohibiting the transfer to any State of non-self-destructing and non-detectable anti-personnel land-mines. Additionally, the United States and the United Kingdom have developed a proposal for an anti-personnel land-mine control programme. The control programme would impose, as a first step, and with a view to the eventual elimination of anti-personnel land-mines, restrictions on the production, stockpiling and transfer of anti-personnel land-mines, in particular long-lived anti-personnel land-mines, which can explode decades after emplacement. Over 30 countries attended a meeting held at Budapest on 29 and 30 June 1995 to discuss that proposal. A second meeting will be held after the CCW Review Conference.

B. Regional initiatives

10. Further progress could be achieved at the regional and subregional levels through initiatives promoted by regional organizations or groups of countries. Examples of such initiatives are the decision of the Council of the European Union (EU) to establish a common action of the 15 States members to implement General Assembly resolutions 48/75 K and 49/75 D and the resolution adopted on 23 June 1995 by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the problems caused by the proliferation of anti-personnel land-mines in Africa.

11. The moratorium decided by EU applies to the export of non-self-destructing and non-detectable anti-personnel land-mines, as well as the export of all anti-personnel land-mines to countries that have not yet ratified or acceded to the CCW Convention and its Land-mine Protocol.

12. The resolution adopted by OAU reads as follows: 1/

> "The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its sixty-second ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa, from 21 to 23 June 1995,
>
> "Having considered the recommendations made by the Seminar, organized jointly by the Organization of African Unity and the International Committee of the Red Cross at Addis Ababa on 11 and 12 April 1995, on International Humanitarian Law and the 1980 United Nations Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CM/1884 (LXII), annex 1),
>
> "Considering resolution CM/Res.1526 (LX) on respect for international humanitarian law and support for humanitarian action in armed conflicts, adopted by the Council of Ministers at its sixtieth ordinary session, held

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1/ See A/50/647, annex I, resolution CM/Res.1593 (LXII).

at Tunis in June 1994, in particular its paragraph 6 (b), by which the Council invites States that have not yet become party to the above Convention to do so,

"Recalling that the Convention will be submitted to the Review Conference due to take place at Vienna from 25 September to 13 October 1995,

"Noting that to date only three African States have acceded to the Convention,

"Deeply concerned over the tragic consequences resulting from the generalized and indiscriminate use of anti-personnel mines and the fact that, of all the regions of the world, Africa is the continent with the largest number of these weapons and is, as a result, paying the heaviest toll,

"Particularly alarmed at the significant increase in the number of victims of anti-personnel mines among the civilian population and the high cost involved in mine clearing and the rehabilitation of the affected areas,

"Noting that only appropriate measures adopted by the entire international community will help put an end to this scourge,

"Noting with concern the ongoing researches aimed at modernizing blinding laser weapons,

"1. Takes note of the relevant recommendations formulated by the above-mentioned Seminar;

"2. Condemns cases of flagrant violation of international humanitarian law by the indiscriminate use of anti-personnel mines;

"3. Urges all member States that have not yet acceded to the 1980 United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Arms to do so as early as possible;

"4. Further urges member States to participate fully and actively in the review conference slated for 25 September to 13 October 1995 at Vienna and to defend a common African position as stated at the above-mentioned seminar, in particular:

"'(a) The total ban on the manufacture and use of mines;

"'(b) The extension of field of application of the 1980 Convention to non-international armed conflicts;

"'(c) The addition to the Convention of mechanisms to guarantee its effective implementation;

"'(d) Mobilization of increased resources for demining and rehabilitation of infested areas and assistance to the victims';

"5. Appeals to the international community to give increased support to African national and regional institutions responsible for giving assistance to victims of anti-personnel mines, in particular the African Rehabilitation Institute;

"6. Requests the countries that are responsible for this act to provide the necessary resources and information, including the maps of the locations of the mines, to the African countries that were victims of the scourge of mines during the Second World War and during conflicts that preceded their accession to independence;

"7. Supports the adoption, by the Review Conference, of a protocol banning blinding laser weapons;

"8. Reiterates the provisions of its resolution CM/Res.1370 (LV) on refugees and displaced persons, appealing to all member States of the Organization of African Unity that are able to do so to contribute, through the Organization of African Unity or any other appropriate arrangements, expertise, personnel, equipment, technical know-how or any other relevant resources towards the clearance of land-mines and other unexploded munitions in areas of potential return of refugees;

"9. Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution, and to report to the next session of the Council of Ministers."

C. Global initiatives

13. At its forty-ninth session, the General Assembly considered the grave consequences of the indiscriminate use of mines in relation to three questions: (a) the moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines; (b) assistance in mine clearance; and (c) the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its annexed Protocols. It adopted a resolution on each subject.

14. The developments resulting from the first two initiatives are summarized in the previous paragraphs or in the report of the Secretary-General on assistance in mine clearance (A/50/408). The developments related to the review process of the CCW will be considered by the General Assembly on the basis of the final documents of the first Review Conference, which concluded the first phase of its work on 13 October 1995 and will continue its work at resumed sessions to be held at Geneva from 15 to 19 January and from 22 April to 3 May 1996. Regarding the institutionalization of individually declared moratoriums in a legally binding instrument such as the CCW Land-mine Protocol, it is relevant to note that the States participating in the first CCW Review Conference have accepted the inclusion in the Land-mine Protocol of an article on transfers of anti-personnel land-mines, although the content of that article is still under negotiation.

III. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

ARGENTINA

[Original: Spanish]

[18 April 1995]

1. On 27 March 1995, United Nations General Assembly resolution 48/75 was approved by Executive Decree No. 435/95. This Decree suspended the export, sale or transfer of all anti-personnel land-mines without exception for five years.

2. The moratorium declared by the Argentine Government on the export of anti-personnel land-mines is the basis for the development of future actions aimed at establishing a permanent regime to control this type of device. This moratorium is a first step towards mitigating the harm caused by the explosion of anti-personnel land-mines.

3. These mines affect the economic feasibility of the areas in question, jeopardize peace-keeping operations and have an impact on civilian life after the conflict has ended.

4. The moratorium decreed by the Argentine Republic is in keeping with its efforts to minimize the serious damage these devices inflict throughout the world, mostly on civilian populations.

5. The Argentine Republic urges all countries that produce anti-personnel land-mines to address this human problem, which causes over 150 fatalities a week.

AUSTRALIA

[Original: English]

[15 May 1995]

1. Australia does not produce anti-personnel land-mines. Thus for Australia to declare a moratorium on exports is redundant. Australia supports the action of those countries which have imposed a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines to States that are not party to the 1980 Inhumane Weapons Convention.

2. While Australia sympathizes with the humanitarian intent behind unconditional bans on the export of anti-personnel land-mines, it sees these as an interim measure that ought not be multilateralized.

3. Since anti-personnel land-mines are legitimate conventional weapons, their sale ought to be permitted, and confined, to States party to Protocol II to the Convention. Otherwise countries such as Australia may be forced to become producers. Such a selective trade ban would encourage States to ratify the

Convention, which needs many more States parties. Long-lived mines should not be produced or sold, and their use should be exceptional and virtually phased out. These measures will protect civilians, which is the main objective of anti-personnel land-mine controls.

4. Australia appeals to Member States to demonstrate their commitment to the spirit of resolution 49/75 D by actively supporting these proposals at the first Review Conference of the Inhumane Weapons Convention in September 1995.

BRAZIL

[Original: English]

[6 March 1995]

1. Brazil imposes legal controls on all exports of war material, including land-mines. Such export operations require an export licence, which is issued by the Government of Brazil in accordance with strict criteria and is only granted if, inter alia: (a) the request is made on behalf of a legitimate government authority; (b) the country in question is not subject to any United Nations embargo; (c) the export operation is not likely to cause or aggravate tensions; and (d) there is no breach of relevant commitments under international law, including humanitarian law.

2. Brazil supports international efforts to strengthen international humanitarian law, in particular in order to address the grave issue of the irresponsible dissemination and unlawful use of land-mines. The Government of Brazil has requested congressional consent to adhere to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and follows with interest current efforts to review and strengthen, as appropriate, the Convention, including its Protocol II on land-mines.

3. The Brazilian contribution to solve the land-mine crisis is also expressed through the provision of assistance to mine-clearance and peace-keeping operations in countries affected by the indiscriminate use of land-mines.

4. Brazil produces land-mines on a small scale only and for its own legitimate defence purposes. Since 1989, there have been no exports of Brazilian land-mines to any country.

CANADA

[Original: English]

[1 May 1995]

Canada has not exported anti-personnel land-mines since 1987 nor does it intend to do so in the future. Canada supports the development of a global regime to control the international transfer of anti-personnel land-mines.

Canada believes that such a regime must complement the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and should be an integral part of it.

CHILE

[Original: Spanish]

[31 May 1995]

Chile has neither produced nor exported anti-personnel land-mines for more than 10 years; indeed, it was in compliance with the relevant General Assembly resolution even before that resolution existed. Without prejudice to the foregoing, Chile has at times considered the use of these devices in its military planning exclusively for defence purposes, since its restricted budget prevented it from considering other, more costly devices, in view of the characteristics of its national territory.

ECUADOR

[Original: Spanish]

[1 May 1995]

1. The Government of Ecuador is pleased to report that there are currently no natural or legal persons in the territory of the Republic of Ecuador who are exporting or re-exporting anti-personnel land-mines.

2. In addition, bearing in mind the General Assembly's request for a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines, the Government of Ecuador has decided not to issue permits for the export of this type of weapon, if any requests for such permits are submitted in future.

EUROPEAN UNION*

[Original: French]

[31 May 1995]

The European Union, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 48/75 K and 49/75 D, which urge States to declare a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines, wishes to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations that on 10 April 1995 the Council of the European Union decided on a joint action concerning anti-personnel land-mines, one of the points of which expressly establishes such a moratorium in the following terms:

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* On behalf of the States members of the European Union that are States Members of the United Nations.

(a) A joint moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines is established by the member States in the light of the relevant United Nations General Assembly resolutions;

(b) This moratorium covers the total prohibition of the export of non-detectable and non-self-destructing anti-personnel land-mines to all destinations and also prohibits the export of all other types of anti-personnel land-mines to States which have not yet ratified the 1980 Convention and its Protocol II;

(c) Member States may institute moratoriums of even broader scope if they so desire.

JAPAN

[Original: English]

[27 June 1995]

1. The export of anti-personnel land-mines is subject to the following principles, guidelines and regulations in Japan. Anti-personnel land-mines are included in item 1 (2) of the annexed list of the Export Trade Control Order. 2/

1. Three principles on arms exports

2. At the session of the Diet held on 1 April 1967, Prime Minister Eisaku Sato declared the three principles.

3. Arms exports shall not be permitted to the following countries or regions:

(a) Communist bloc countries;

(b) Countries subject to arms exports embargo under United Nations resolutions;

(c) Countries involved in or likely to be involved in international conflict.

2. Policy guideline on arms exports

4. At the session of the Diet held on 27 February 1976, Prime Minister Takeo Miki announced the government policy guidelines:

(a) The Government, in view of Japan's commitment to peace, has exercised caution regarding arms exports so as to avoid aggravating conflicts. The

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2/ Available for consultation at the Centre for Disarmament Affairs.

Government shall continue to do so in accordance with the following policy guideline and shall not promote arms exports:

(i) Arms exports to areas subject to the three principles shall not be permitted;

(ii) Arms exports to other areas shall be restrained in conformity with the spirit of the Constitution and the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Law;

(iii) Exports of equipment related to arms production (item 1 (15) and (16) of the annex list of the Export Trade Control Order) are treated in the same manner as arms;

(b) The term "arms" as referred to in the three principles is defined as goods that are listed in items 1 (1) to (14) of the annexed list of the Export Trade Control Order of Japan and that are to be used by military forces and employed directly in combat.

JORDAN

[Original: English]

[16 June 1995]

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan does not manufacture, and therefore does not export, any kind of anti-personnel land-mines.

MALTA

[Original: English]

[2 June 1995]

1. The Government of Malta fully supports the content of resolution 49/75 D, entitled "Moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines".

2. Malta does not produce or export anti-personnel land-mines and welcomes the moratoriums declared by other States on the export of anti-personnel land-mines.

POLAND

[Original: English]

[6 June 1995]

1. The production of anti-personnel land-mines in Poland was abandoned in the mid-1980s and the export of those mines has ceased de facto following the adoption of resolution 48/75 K.

2. The preparatory work on the ordinance of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Poland formally introducing a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines has entered its final stage.

SLOVENIA

[Original: English]

[16 May 1995]

Slovenia does not export anti-personnel land-mines. Therefore, Slovenia already applies in practice the moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines, in compliance with General Assembly resolution 49/75 D.

SPAIN

[Original: Spanish]

[31 May 1995]

1. The Spanish authorities have decided to extend for a second year the policy instituted on 24 February 1994 to deny any request for the export of anti-personnel land-mines.

2. This decision was taken on 24 February 1995 by the competent body of the Spanish Government, the Interministerial Board for the Regulation of Foreign Trade in Defence Matériel and Dual-Use Matériel, composed of members of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defence, the Interior, Economy and Finance, and Industry, Commerce and Tourism, extending the decision taken on 24 February 1994.

3. The Council of Ministers, at its meeting of 5 May 1995, took express note of the above-mentioned decision of the Interministerial Board.

4. Accordingly, Spain reiterates its appeal to all the countries of the international community to adopt similar moratoriums on the export of anti-personnel land-mines, in the belief that such initiatives will help to reduce the high human and economic costs entailed by the use of such weapons.

SWITZERLAND

[Original: French]

[1 May 1995]

1. On 11 May 1994, the Swiss Government decided to impose a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines to States which are not parties to Protocol II of the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of

Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

2. This moratorium covers not only anti-personnel land-mines, but all mines defined in Protocol II, since mines other than anti-personnel land-mines may also have indiscriminate effects on the civilian population. The moratorium also applies to components used in the production of mines.

3. Prior to this decision, the production and transfer of land-mines were already subject to strict limitations as provided for in the 1972 federal act on war matériel. This act prohibits, inter alia, the export of war matériel, including land-mines, to countries at war or threatened by dangerous tensions.

4. Switzerland feels that the imposition of moratoriums on the export of land-mines is a preliminary step in the effort to address the problems caused by the indiscriminate use of land-mines.

5. Lastly, Switzerland attaches particular importance to the strengthening of the provisions of the 1980 Convention and its Protocol II, and to the accession of all States to these instruments.

UKRAINE

[Original: Russian]

[20 July 1995]

1. The programme for manufacturing conventional weapons on Ukraine to date does not provide for the development or production of anti-personnel land-mines or other types of weapons of a selective nature.

2. A draft government decision on the imposition by Ukraine of a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines has been drawn up and submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

3. Ukraine has adopted a state programme for the utilization of conventional munitions, which provides for the immediate destruction of anti-personnel land-mines. One of Ukraine's enterprises is being equipped with the necessary capability for this purpose.

4. Lack of sufficient funds in Ukraine is impeding the complete and effective solution of this problem.

5. During the period from 1992 to 1995, the Ukraine Ministry of Defence and other state bodies did not conclude any agreements to deliver or sell anti-personnel land-mines to foreign States and did not sell such weapons abroad.

6. During those years, Ukraine refused to sell to several States anti-personnel land-mines with which its armed forces are equipped.

7. After the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine adopts the decision on the imposition of a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will send the text of the corresponding document to the United Nations.

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

[Original: English]

[18 May 1995]

1. The United Kingdom believes that there is a pressing need to reduce the dangers to civilians from the irresponsible use of anti-personnel land-mines. In July 1994 the United Kingdom announced an indefinite moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines, the scope of which was extended on 15 March 1995. The United Kingdom's moratorium now comprises a total ban on the export of non-self-destructing or non-detectable anti-personnel land-mines, plus a ban on the export of all anti-personnel land-mines to countries that have not ratified the 1981 United Nations Weaponry Convention. The United Kingdom is also bound by a European Union-wide moratorium covering the same ground.

2. The United Kingdom remains committed to putting an end to trade in non-self-destructing and non-detectable anti-personnel land-mines, which are the most dangerous to civilians; and to ensure that even self-destructing mines are acquired only by responsible countries.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

[Original: English]

[8 September 1995]

1. The United States believes the international community should take strong action to reduce the threat posed to civilian populations by the indiscriminate use of land-mines. Hence, on 11 November 1993, the United States formally introduced in the First Committee of the General Assembly a draft resolution calling for States to implement moratoriums on anti-personnel land-mine exports. On 3 November 1994, the United States formally introduced in the First Committee a similar draft resolution, which called not only for export moratoriums, but also for further international efforts to address the problem, with a view to the eventual elimination of anti-personnel land-mines. Both resolutions were adopted in the General Assembly by consensus. The United States will formally introduce a similar resolution in the First Committee during the fiftieth session of the General Assembly.

2. On 30 November 1993, the United States enacted a three-year extension of its moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land-mines (Public Law 103-160, of 30 November 1993). Since passage of the 1993 resolution, the United States has approached States that either produce or export anti-personnel land-mines, requesting that they also adopt export moratoriums.

3. Further steps are needed to address the scope of problems associated with indiscriminately placed land-mines. Efforts to clear mines already laid, to strengthen the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and to establish an international control programme for anti-personnel land-mines are critical elements of a comprehensive strategy.

4. The United States is involved in de-mining programmes in Asia, Africa and Central America. In the last year $46 million has been spent for global de-mining assistance. The United States also worked closely with the United Nations to hold an International Meeting on Mine Clearance at Geneva from 5 to 7 July to raise funds for de-mining and to discuss global de-mining needs, operational priorities and ongoing programmes. The United States pledged $12.5 million at the conference.

5. On 24 March 1995 the United States deposited its instrument of ratification of the CCW. This ensures that the United States will be a full party at the September Review Conference at Vienna, where we are committed to strengthening restrictions in the Land-Mine Protocol.

6. The United States and United Kingdom have developed a proposal for an anti-personnel land-mine control programme. Although the goal is the eventual elimination of anti-personnel land-mines, as a first step, the control programme would impose restrictions on the production, stockpiling and transfer of anti-personnel land-mines, in particular long-lived anti-personnel land-mines, which can explode decades after emplacement. Over 30 countries attended a meeting at Budapest on 29 and 30 June to discuss the joint United States/United Kingdom proposal. A second meeting will be held after the CCW Review Conference.